



**Executive Board of the
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UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

Extensions of country programmes in the Arab States region

Note by the Executive Director

Summary

The present note contains information on the third one-year extension of the UNFPA country programme for Lebanon.

In accordance with established procedures, the Executive Director approves the first one-year extension of a country programme, while requests for extensions for a second or third year, or two-year extensions, are submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

The Executive Board may wish to approve the exceptional third-year extension of the country programme for Lebanon, as indicated in the attached table.



Extensions of UNFPA country programmes for which the approval of the Executive Board is sought

Country	Years covered by original country programme	Year covered by any extension already approved	Year(s) proposed for new extension	Extension	Explanation		
					United Nations harmonization	In-country political development	Other
Lebanon	2002-2006	2007-2008	2009	X	In line with harmonization, UNDP and UNICEF, in addition to UNFPA, are also seeking an additional one-year extension of their current country programmes in Lebanon. The new UNDAF will be prepared for the period 2010-2014.	Continuing tension and confrontations between the opposition and the Government led to armed clashes and an insecure situation in the capital city, Beirut, in May 2008, as well as in other areas of the country. While the prospect for a short-term political agreement is good, the situation has also highlighted the fragility and instability of the political environment. As a result, the UNDAF and the formulation of the new country programme could not be completed on schedule, and government approval and consultations were delayed. The United Nations country team, including the UNDG Executive Committee agencies, is therefore requesting an exceptional third-year extension of the current country programme.	Social and political tensions, along with the precarious security situation in effect since 2005, delayed the programming process in Lebanon. The current programme of assistance for Lebanon, with some minor modifications, provides an adequate framework for UNFPA-supported projects in Lebanon through 2009.